

Career and Technical Education Week is Highlighted by Signing of Proclamation by Governor Ernie Fletcher

Student leaders, members and advisors from the state's seven Career and Technical Education Student Organizations (CTSO) gathered in Frankfort on Feb.15 to learn about state government and citizenship during the **2005 Kentucky Career and Technical Education Student Organization Leadership Day**.

The event was part of Career and Technical Education Week (Feb. 13-19), which was made official in Kentucky through a special proclamation signing ceremony by Governor Ernie Fletcher.



Governor Ernie Fletcher signs the official document to proclaim Feb 13-19 Career and Technical Education Week in Kentucky. Behind the governor from left to right are Mary Alice Birdwhistel, FCCLA state president; Mikah Reams, Rockcastle Co. ATC KY SkillsUSA representative; Patrick Buley, FBLA state historian; Victoria Kirby, Rockcastle Co. ATC FBLA VP of Community Service; Damon Bailey, HOSA state treasurer; and Charlee Doom, FFA state president.

***“Career Tech – Training Tomorrow’s Workforce”
2005 Career and Technical Education Week Theme***

Approximately 800 students and advisors from locally operated middle and high schools, state operated area technology centers, and technical and community colleges throughout Kentucky congregated in Frankfort to attend the leadership program held at the Frankfort High School gym, tour the Capitol, visit legislators, see displays about various CTSOs, hear from state representatives and senators about the workings of the government and experience first hand Senate and House Floor Resolutions recognizing CTE Week. The day was filled with some type of activity for everyone.

Leadership Day is presented by the Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE). Career and Technical Education Student Organizations help members obtain leadership skills and gain experience that will help them pursue careers, college and lifelong learning.



Students who were in attendance at the Student Organization Leadership Day at the Frankfort HS gym.



Senator Vernie McGaha

The Honorable Vernie McGaha, Senator from the 15th Kentucky Senate District participated in the Student Organization Leadership Day program by speaking with students about “The Role of Citizens in the Legislative Process.”

He provided students with three important points to remember – 1. Be informed – keep up with issues. 2. Make yourself acquainted with those who represent you. 3. Be professional – pursue issues in a professional, courteous manner.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Senator McGaha relayed to his audience that career and technical education is very dear to him and is the key to a good economic future for the state.

The Honorable Derrick Graham, Representative from the 57th Kentucky House District, is shown making a presentation to students entitled, “A Legislator’s Perspective on the Legislative Process.”

During his remarks, Representative Graham relayed that if students wanted to run for an office they should become involved in the community; participate in political campaigns and be involved in school by running for class offices.

He also encouraged all students to become more informed of issues because being more informed allows a person to make better decisions.



Representative Derrick Graham



KACTE Executive Director Mike Stone (far right) engages KY SkillsUSA officers in a role-playing exercise – “The Wrong Way and the Right Way – How to Meet a Legislator.”

At right, Ms. Sarah Raikes, KACTE president opens the Student Organization Leadership Day with a “Call to Assembly” at the Frankfort High School gym.



Rockcastle Co. students had an opportunity to meet and have their photo taken with Senator Ed Worley and Representative Danny Ford in the Capitol Rotunda during their Leadership Day visit to Frankfort.



At left, Mr. Bryan Alvey, Kentucky Farm Bureau director of Local Affairs and Policy Development, gives an overview of the role of a lobbyist in the legislative process.

“Leadership Day is an invaluable tool to expose students to the need of being actively involved in shaping the future of our state,” says Shelby Co. Health Sciences Instructor Peggy Williford. “Decisions that are made in Frankfort directly and indirectly impact the lives of health care workers and the lives of the patients in their care. We must provide opportunities for our students to become more informed of issues because what goes on in society affects us either as health care workers or consumers of health care. This was a great chance to see this in action.”



Shelby Co. ATC HOSA students during the Student Organization Leadership Day program at the Frankfort High School gym.



“Leadership Day encourages ‘teamwork’ among the numerous student organizations,” says KY SkillsUSA Director Steve Phillippi. “For two days these students are engaged in learning how to manage for success, developing communications skills, making decisions that will have an impact on local, regional and state events; and learning how government leaders affect change. It’s a great opportunity for growth and development.”

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Student Leadership Day was sponsored by the Home Builders Association of Kentucky, KY Association of Highway Contractors, KY Cattlemen’s Association, KY Farm Bureau Federation, KY Farm Bureau Insurance, KY Lumber and Building Material Dealers’ Association, KY Retail Federation and KY Manufactured Housing Institute.